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| Request   | Application Numbe  | 10/667,09               | 96-Conf. #1638     |  |
|---|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--|
| for   | Filing Date        | Septembe                | September 18, 2003 |  |
| Continued Examination (RCE)  Transmittal  | First Named Invent | or Brian R. M           | Brian R. MacDonald |  |
| Address to:   | Art Unit           | 1647                    | 1647               |  |
| il Stop RCE mmissioner for Patents Examiner Na  |                    | B. E. Bun               | B. E. Bunner       |  |
| P.O. Box 1450<br>Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  | Attorney Docket Nu | mber 026038.0           | )376PTUS           |  |
| This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.  Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.                       |                    |                         |                    |  |
| 1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114 Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s). |                    |                         |                    |  |
| a. Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.   |                    |                         |                    |  |
| i. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on  |                    |                         |                    |  |
| ii. U Other   |                    |                         |                    |  |
| b. x Enclosed   |                    |                         |                    |  |
| iAmendment/Reply iiiX Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)  |                    |                         |                    |  |
| ii Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iv Other   |                    |                         |                    |  |
| 2. Miscellaneous  |                    |                         |                    |  |
| a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a  |                    |                         |                    |  |
| period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)   |                    |                         |                    |  |
| b. Other  3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.   |                    |                         |                    |  |
|   |                    |                         |                    |  |
| a The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, any underpayment of fees, or credit any  Overpayments, to Deposit Account No  |                    |                         |                    |  |
| i. RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)  |                    |                         |                    |  |
| ii. Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)   |                    |                         |                    |  |
| iii. Other  |                    |                         |                    |  |
| b. Check in the amount of \$ enclosed   |                    |                         |                    |  |
| c. X Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)  |                    |                         |                    |  |
| WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.  |                    |                         |                    |  |
| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED   |                    |                         |                    |  |
| Signature Aginan  |                    | Date January 2          |                    |  |
| Name (Print/Type) Therese M. Finan  |                    | Registration No. 42,533 |                    |  |
|   |                    |                         |                    |  |